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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/542,126

12/01/2005

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3135-052071

8454

28289 7590 01/08/2008
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EXAMINER

LATHAN JR, QUINTIN JEROME

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

4193

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/08/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/542,126	Applicant(s) DRIEDIJK, ADEMAR ODIN HARON	
	Examiner QUINTIN LATHAN JR	Art Unit 4193	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 December 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 December 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/18/2006</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 15-28 are presented for examination. Claims 1-14 have been canceled.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 23 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. Independent claim 15 from which claim 23 dependent already includes a keyboard in the device.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 15-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Baker et al. (US Patent 5210689).

As per Claim 15, Baker et al. teaches a device for voicing phonemes (Fig. 3, input system), comprising: a keyboard (Fig. 3, element [4]), which keyboard comprises at least one support structure (Fig. 4, is the keyboard structure of the

input keyboard in the system of Fig. 3, element [4]) and a plurality of keys connected to the support structure (Fig. 4, keyboard has a number of keys) , wherein each key of at least a number of keys is designated with at least one linguistic symbol (Fig. 4, e.g. when the B key [6,H] is pressed a word, phrase or sentence is produced),
an electronic processing unit (Fig. 3, element [6], microcomputer system) connected to the keyboard for recording keystrokes,
and sound-producing means (Fig. 3, element [18]) connected electronically to the processing unit (Fig. 3, element [6], microcomputer system), wherein the processing unit (Fig. 3, element [6], microcomputer system) is provided with conversion means (Fig. 3, element [6], microcomputer and Fig. 3, element [12], specialized processor) for converting at least one recorded keystroke into a signal (Fig. 3, element [6], microcomputer system) for a phoneme corresponding to the linguistic symbol of this at least one keystroke, wherein the sound-producing means (Fig. 3, element [18]) are adapted for voicing of the phoneme.

As per Claim 16, Baker et al. teaches the device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the at least one phonetic symbol is shown on each of at least a number of the keys of the keyboard (Fig. 4).

As per Claim 17, Baker et al. teaches the device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the processing unit (Fig. 3, element [6], microcomputer system) is connected electronically to visualizing means (Fig. 3, element [7], visual display) for visualizing the phonemes associated with the keystrokes.

As per Claim 18, Baker et al. teaches the device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the conversion means (Fig. 3, element [6], microcomputer and Fig. 3, element [12], specialized processor) are adapted for conversion of a plurality of entered keystrokes into a single signal corresponding with these keystrokes (signals sentence ideas enables the generation of a word by the actuation of as many as several keys) (Col. 11, lines 14-16).

As per Claim 19, Baker et al. teaches the device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the processing unit (Fig. 3, element [6], microcomputer system) is connected electronically to at least one database(Fig. 3, element [21], and Fig. 3 element [22]) in which is stored a plurality of words and phonemes corresponding with these words.

As per Claim 20, Baker et al. teaches the device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the processing unit is formed by a central processing unit (CPU) (Fig. 3, element [6]).

As per Claim 21, Baker et al. teaches the device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the sound-producing means are formed by at least one loudspeaker (Fig. 3, element [18]).

As per Claim 22, Baker et al. teaches the device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the device is also provided with at least one information carrier, which information carrier (Fig. 3, element [21], and Fig. 3 element [22]) is provided with the conversion means.

As per Claim 23, Baker et al. teaches a keyboard (Fig. 3, element [4]) for use in a device as claimed in claim 15.

As per Claim 24, Baker et al. teaches a method for voicing phonemes (an input unit and method in a text generation system, a language translation system, speech synthesis system, or any type processing system capable of processing input data)(Col. 8, lines 42-46) , comprising the steps of:

A) a user pressing at least one key (receives input signals from the keyboard) (col. 14, lines 1-3),

B) a processing unit recording the keystroke (the microcomputer system, performs all comparisons, in conjunction with internal memory, as well as analysis and detection of each of the plurality of keys activated) (Col. 14, lines 7-10),

C) converting the keystroke into a signal for a phoneme corresponding with the keystroke (the input system can operate in conjunction with a specialized processor to which data is input from the input system, then processed, and subsequently output) (Col. 9, lines 65-68), and

D) acoustically (to a speaker) (Col. 10, line 1) producing the phoneme.

As per Claim 25, Baker et al. teaches the method as claimed in claim 24, wherein a plurality of keys are pressed during pressing of at least one key by the user according to operating step A), whereafter the entered keystrokes are converted as according to operating step C) into a single signal for a phoneme corresponding with the keystrokes (signals sentence ideas enables the

generation of a word by the actuation of as many as several keys) (Col. 11, lines 14-16).

As per Claim 26, Baker et al. teaches the method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the phoneme forms a word (the polysemous symbols or icons generate a word by actuation of as many as several keys) (Col. 11, lines 11-16).

As per Claim 27, Baker et al. teaches the method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the method is provided with an operating step E), comprised of comparing the entered keystroke with words included in a database before the phoneme is produced acoustically as according to operating step D) and after the keystroke is recorded as according to operating step B) (upon accessing a morpheme via an icon symbol, the word will be displayed, but not yet output to processor) (Col. 15, lines 19-22).

As per Claim 28, Baker et al. teaches the method as claimed in claim 24, wherein a delay of a determined time duration is present between recording of the keystroke by the processing unit as according to operating step (words are output to specialized processor on a delayed basis) (Col. 15, lines 18-19) B) and converting of the keystroke into a signal for a phoneme corresponding with the keystroke as according to operating step C).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Baker et al (US Patent 4661916) teach a system for method for

producing synthetic plural word messages; Dufresne (US Patent 4241521) teach a multi-symbol message communicator for a speechless handicapped person.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to QUINTIN LATHAN JR whose telephone number is (571)270-3846. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday Alt-Friday 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-1753. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Qjl

/DANIEL PAN/
Primary Examiner

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